

CARTSNEWS

The Official Journal of the Carolina Token Society

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November 2012

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Greetings to all CARTS members,

Autumn seems to be coin show season in North & South Carolina, and as I write this the South Carolina Numismatic Association convention in Greenville is right around the corner. The show (held October 26-28, 2012) will be the largest coin show ever held in the Palmetto State. The North Carolina state show was held just a couple of weeks ago, and although I wasn't able to attend, the reports I have heard were all very favorable. But most importantly, another CARTS meeting is nigh and I am looking forward to it.

Our CARTS meeting will be held in Hickory, NC on November 3. See elsewhere in this issue for the particulars of time and place. We are having to hold the meeting a little earlier this year due to conflicts with the coin show circuit. On the weekend immediately following our meeting, a show will be held in Augusta, Georgia. And the weekend after that in Columbia, SC. The first weekend in November provided the only Saturday on which there was no nearby show.

I hope to see everyone at the meeting and be sure to bring lots of tokens!

Regards,
Tony Chibbaro
President, CARTS

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

In the words of one of the English poets, "alas how easily things go wrong!" Hopefully everyone understood that in the August newsletter this column began by reporting on the **MAY** meeting, not the November meeting! Your editor only realized the error as he was writing up this issue. Perhaps the editor needs an editor?

But, of course, there will be a November meeting in a few days. On November 3, yes **November** 3, CARTS will meet in Hickory, NC at the Fairfield Inn & Suites located at 1950 13TH Avenue Drive South East. Set up will be from 8:00 to 9:00 and the meeting from 9:00 to 12:00. Telephone number there is 828-431-3000. Detailed directions are located on page 8. See you there!

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Comments, suggestions, reactions, (maybe even) criticism, will be gratefully accepted. Let us know!
Articles, New Finds, Announcements, and Classifieds to Don Bailey only! Dues to Bob King only!

SHELBY, N.C. TOKEN FURTHER IDENTIFIED?

Lamar Bland

The business which issued this North Carolina token has not been previously identified. The token reads "C.C.M.A.C. / Shelby, N.C. // Good For 25c In Merchandise." It is aluminum and measures 27 mm.



I believe the most plausible issuer was Major Henry Franklin Schenck, founder of Cleveland Cotton Mills.

Schenck established four mills in Cleveland County between 1873 and 1905. He located them by rivers near Shelby—the first at Knob Creek, with others at Lawndale and Casar. He also built company stores at each location.

As business increased in those years, Schenck wanted to expand the sale of cloth from his mills. He built a narrow gauge railroad to link his villages with the larger railroad at Shelby (and thus the nation). He contacted sources in South Carolina to buy what he needed: rails, railroad cars, engines, and all sorts of smaller parts. Instructions from him in a 1902 letter say: "Ship to SHELBY by South Carolina and Georgia Extension. Invoice CLEVELAND COTTON MILLS." He completed the line in 1899, calling it the Lawndale Railway AND INDUSTRIAL COMPANY. (In the 3 previous sentences, capitals in phrasing are mine.)

This correspondence is referenced in *THE LAWDALE RAILWAY AND INDUSTRIAL COMPANY*, published in 1999 by Matthew Bumgarner, Ladley Burn, Thomas Forney, Jr., and Douglas Walker. The book includes a map of the town and village site in Lawndale, with a photograph of the large company store centered there. It also contains a reproduced 1903 advertisement indicating Schenck's desire to extend the line northwest to Casar (never accomplished), where his third company store already stood.

How, then, might C.C.M.A.C. reference Schenck's business?

The above details indicate what an expansive entrepreneur Schenck was for his time and region. In an effort to find other businesses this size in the area, I consulted Cleveland County Business Directories from 1888 (the year Cleveland Cotton Mills opened in Lawndale) to 1903 (when the company name was changed to Cleveland Mill and Power Company). I found none with names which the CCMAC acronym would fit.

On its reverse, the token clearly indicates its mercantile purpose. Schenck had 3 company stores where the token could have been used. Though they were not in Shelby proper, the phrasing in my previous paragraph ("As business increased...") indicates Schenck's business presence in the county seat.

On the obverse, C.C.M. could mean Cleveland Cotton Mills, but the A.C. part of the acronym is more enigmatic. Reading it to mean "At Casar," while possible, does not seem as likely as "AND COMPANY." Schenck, after all, had claimed "Company" identity in naming his railroad in 1899. And, previous to that, his store at Knob Creek was named "Schenck, Ramsaur & Co."

Finally, it is of a graphic design that usually identifies tokens minted near the turn-of-the-century.

North Carolina Collector

Buyer of NC Singles or Collections
 State sections of B&D for sale/trade
 Trader list for all state tokens
 Enthusiastic researcher
 Robert S. King, 709 Cardinal Dr.
 Brevard, NC 28712
 828-883-8028 tokenadict@citcom.net

Want to buy southern states tokens. You price or I will make an offer, your choice. I don't make flea market offerws. Pay top dollar for tokens I need and top wholesale for tokens I have.

I want mavericks and one is fine. Give me A chance, we will make a deal.

Want to buy R. G. Dun and Bradstreet
 1963 & newer
 1882, 1884 & 1897
 Need a full book for 1910, 1911 or 1912

NC NEW FINDS

Bob King



**SWAIN & SPENCER / (STAR) / JERRY, / - / N.C. //
 GOOD FOR / -5 / IN / (STAR) MERCHANDISE (STAR)
 – Rd, Al, 20mm**

Jerry, NC, located in Tyrrell County had a post office from 1901 through 1927.

Swain and Spencer ran a general store at Jerry from 1888 through 1904. The partners' names were J. Walker Swain and W.E. Spencer. The partnership dissolved in 1905 but the business continued as Swain and Son for two years. The business continued except for short interruptions through 1933 as Swain And

Company. The business was listed in Jerry from 1904 through 1932 even though the business location did not change it was shown in Columbia when Jerry didn't have a post office. Columbia is 2 ½ miles north of Jerry. The token is probably from the 1800s.



**BON-AIR / (ORN) / FOUNTAIN / Z.V. / BELLAMY //
 (STAR) GOOD FOR (STAR) / 5 / IN TRADE – Rd, Al,
 19mm**

Early this year as I searched a coin show in Raleigh for tokens a dealer that always looks at me with a solemn face and says “sorry no tokens” looked at me and smiled. I was thinking there isn't anything right about this picture when he said “I finally found you a token”. After the usual pleasantries he searched around on the back tables and brought out an aluminum token. I quickly noticed it was a maverick but he was so excited I was happy also. That was my only find that day and while cruising west on I-40 toward home I pulled the token from my pocket and for the first time really looked it over. Even though “Bon-Air” sounds like a 50s motel the word “Fountain” told me that it was probably a drug store. Next I noticed Z.V. Bellamy and the initials screamed Zebulon Vance, a popular, Buncombe County born, civil war soldier and Democrat Politician. Pack Square in Asheville has a monument to Mr. Vance and his initials are almost as common as R.E.L. for Robert E. Lee, another civil war hero. With that hope solidly in mind I put away the token and drove home to find my guess was correct. The result was not only a new find but a new town, Ahoskie, in Hertford County. I have been told of more tokens credited to Ahoskie but I haven't been lucky enough to see them.

Z.V. Bellamy owned a confectionery and ice cream shop from 1914 through 1918. He owned a furniture shop in 1920 and a furniture and drugs

business in 1921. The token is from the 1914 through 1918 period.



FARMER'S EXCHANGE CO. / 100 / STONEVILLE, N.C. // IN TRADE / 100 / PAT. JUN. 1909 / INGLE SYSTEM – Rd, Br, 35mm

Since our last CARTS Meeting I have spent many hours working on the 48 businesses in North Carolina that are known to have used Ingle Tokens but don't have any tokens reported. The one issue that is most difficult is the "assumed name business". For example I have the Farmers Exchange Token from Stoneville pictured above. Since most Ingle Records show the owners name and not the assumed business name, one is left with assumed name tokens and no tokens for owner names. Recently some really nice exceptions have shown up. I have owned a Farmers Exchange 5 Token for many years and had correctly attributed it to Stoneville. About 6 months ago I was on my way to Eden, NC to look for tokens when I visited a medium size antique store. It was a great store with real antiques and no crafts or flowers. I am sure most of you can relate to that. The owner had a small section devoted to local antiques and collectibles that weren't for sale. My eyes instantly went to a 1.00 Farmers Exchange Token that was self identified. After an hour or more of admiring the token and negotiations I was successful and took the token home. I now know for sure that my attribution for the 5 denomination is correct but I am leaving it to you to look at the listings below and find the additional mystery that remains with Farmers Exchange Tokens.

FARMER'S EXCHANGE CO. / 5 // IN TRADE / 5 / PAT. JUN. 1909 / INGLE SYSTEM – Rd, Br, 20mm.

Farmer's Exchange Company is listed from 1912 through 1929 as a general store. These tokens were shipped to Stoneville in 1912.

FARMERS EXCHANGE / 5 / NON / TRANSF. // IN TRADE ONLY / 5 / INGLE / SYSTEM (INGLE SYSTEM OVER TRIANGLE) / PAT. APR. 7, 1914 – Rd, Br, 19mm.

Farmers Exchange is listed from 1912 through 1929 as a general store. Ingle Shipping Records don't show any Farmers Exchange Tokens shipped in the time frame for 1914 Type Ingle Tokens.

An additional fact to make matters more difficult is that 68 assumed name tokens are known that haven't been attributed and some of those are sure to be North Carolina.

Stoneville is located in Rockingham County. The town was founded around 1857 by Frank J. and Pinckney M. Stone. A post office was opened there in 1865.

NC NEW FIND

Lamar Bland



KING / DRUG CO. / INC / FOREST CITY, N.C. // GOOD FOR / 5c / AT FOUNT – Rd, Al, 19mm.

Bob King's Dun and Bradstreet annuals indicate G.C.King as the owner of King Drug Company in this Rutherford County town from 1912-1915. As far as I know, Bob is not related to G.C.

THE BIG ONE THAT GOT AWAY

Tony Chibbaro

Some fishermen are known to be habitual exaggerators, but thankfully, in 30 years of “fishing” for tokens, I haven’t had to invent many tales about the big ones that got away. I have been fortunate in that I can usually land what I happen to hook, but recently I did let one wriggle away – and it was a big one. Back in September of this year, a previously unseen specimen of an unknown “hybrid” token species eluded my capture and I am still sick about it today.

I had my first whiff of this unknown “hybrid” about 15 years ago when I was still living in Leesville, SC. On the drive back from church on a warm May Sunday, I happened to notice a couple of guys metal detecting in the park down the street from my house. Having to go back out to the store for a last minute item for Sunday dinner, I stopped at the park and saw that the two relic hunters were still at it. They were very friendly and were happy to show me what they had scored – a few wheat cents, a single Buffalo nickel, and a Cracker Jack presidential token. With the appearance of the token I steered the conversation to tokens in general and described to them the type of token I liked to collect. They immediately replied that they had dug a couple of tokens not too long ago and both were from South Carolina. Well, needless to say, I was late getting back to the house for dinner.

One of the pair went on to describe what sounded like a known token from Plum Branch, SC but with a couple of details wrong. The listed token I had in mind was issued by a man named Bracknell, was made of brass, and had an Orco reverse. The digger insisted that his token was made of aluminum, was issued

by a man named *Blackwell*, and was *good for a soda water*. These discrepancies made me doubt that what he was telling me was correct, that perhaps he had the details mixed up with some other token he had found. When I gently questioned him further, though, he was insistent that he had it right.

All this is prelude to the token he mentioned next. He proceeded to tell me about another token he had dug – one from The Hines Lumber Company of Meriwether, SC that was *good for a ferry ride*. I had never heard of anything like this and my credulity had already been stretched by the first token, but now he was going on about something that sounded completely fabricated. He was adamant about having his facts straight and the more he went on about it, the more I was becoming convinced that he believed what he said, but I wasn’t quite ready to accept it all at face value. I queried him about the whereabouts of both tokens, deciding that if I could see them in person, I would know if his facts were on the money. He replied that he still owned the Plum Branch token, but that he had sold the Meriwether token to a token dealer from Chicago. He related the dealer’s name and the price for which the token had changed hands, and although the name was a familiar one to me, I was still taken aback by it all.

I then invited the pair to come down the street to my house and see what they could find in my yard. The house I was living in was built in the late 1930s and was a replacement for an even older home on the same property. I had never searched the yard for relics and was interested to know if there were any treasures buried underfoot. They told me that they were not finished searching the park and would come down to my house when they were done.

On the way home, I thought about these two guys and what they had told me. I just couldn’t wrap my head around the discrepancies concerning the Plum Branch

token and the enormity of a lumber token / ferry token combination. After an hour or two I saw them in my front yard and I went out to see if they had found anything there. One of the guys showed me a Mercury dime he had dug near the sidewalk, but nothing else. I brought up the subject of the Plum Branch token and whether they might be willing to trade or sell it. The one who owned it said that perhaps we could work out a deal and that he would bring the token by the house the following week.

Sure enough, he showed up at the agreed-upon time and I was eager to see this supposed aluminum Plum Branch token. I had girded myself that he would be presenting me with one of the scarce, but not overly rare tokens of J.W. Bracknell & Son. I had a full set of these tokens and was fully prepared to be disappointed with a duplicate of something already in my collection. Much to my surprise, however, he showed me a token exactly as he had described it the previous week. It was an aluminum token from a drug store operated by J.B. Blackwell, and not J.W. Bracknell. He was 100% correct in what he had told me earlier and I began to believe that he had in fact also found the aforementioned lumber/ferry token. He and I soon reached an agreement on a trade concerning the Plum Branch token and I found myself in possession of a new addition to my collection.

Over the ensuing 15 years I often thought about this now-fabled “hybrid” token and wondered if I would ever get a glimpse of it. I called the dealer in Chicago, but he denied having purchased it. I kept waiting to see if one would surface in a mail bid sale or on eBay, but one never did. Then one day this past August, I received an email from fellow CARTS member Helen Barry about a token she had seen at her local coin club meeting. Lo and behold, her description matched that of the “hybrid” exactly – a lumber token from Meriwether, SC which was good for a ferry

trip! The token had been brought to the club meeting by another member on behalf of a non-collector who was seeking information about it. Needless to say, I contacted said club member and arranged a look-see at the September 2102 Aiken coin show.



I eagerly anticipated the coin show and was not disappointed as the collector brought in the token for me to photograph (see above). It was everything I expected – a 35mm octagonal brass token, with the obverse inscription “HINES LUMBER CO., MERIWETHER, S.C.” in two lines, while the reverse featured “ONE FERRIAGE TRIP” in three lines of text. I was holding the “big one” in my hands, but had not yet hooked it. The collector who had brought it in for me to see was not the actual owner. So, I reluctantly handed it back to him, but not before getting the true owner’s name and phone number. I would have to negotiate with another person if I wanted to land this one.

You can probably figure out what happened next. I called the owner and spoke to him for quite a while over the phone, but ultimately was unable to strike a deal for the token. He was not a collector of coins or tokens, but he did enjoy local history and appreciated the token’s past. He had found it on some property he owned, while in the process of tearing down a brick chimney from an old, abandoned house. The token was lodged in amidst the mortar, some of which still adheres to its surfaces and can be seen in the photograph above.

Now here’s some history on the token. The Hines Lumber Company operated a sawmill in

rural McCormick County near what was then the Savannah River. The river has been dammed up there now and has formed the Clarks Hill Reservoir. According to business directories, the company was in business for a number of years – from 1917 through 1940. Local sources reveal that the mill was destroyed by a flood and was not rebuilt. The token's use as payment for a ferry crossing is intriguing. There were two ferries that I can document in the immediate area. Middleton Ferry was chartered in 1919 by L.C. Rich and Marie R. Middleton. Furey's Ferry was incorporated in 1921 by Daniel McKee and Miss M.E. McKee. The latter was out of business by 1926. I surmise that the tokens

were issued to employees of the lumber company for payment of ferry fare while on company business. But on the other hand, they may have been issued to allow the employees to use the ferry while going to and from work. At this point in time, we'll probably never know for sure.....

I hope you have enjoyed this tale I have spun. I swear that it's all true. And I would just like you to know that I haven't yet given up on hooking this one. Tomorrow's another day and I might just go fishing. You never know what is on the end of the line until you haul it in!

CLASSIFIED ADS

WANTED

WILL PAY \$200 FOR THE FIRST TOKEN IN NICE CONDITION FROM THE ARUNDEL MERCANTILE COMPANY THAT IS OFFERED. Tony Chibbaro, PO Box 420, Prosperity, SC 29127, email: Chibbaro@mindspring.com, phone: 803-530-3668

FOR SALE

OFFERING 2 W.VA. LUMBER TOKENS. 1) Kanes Creek Supply Co gf \$1. In Merchandise (strong lettering); 2) Gf 50 i.m. (legible but more worn) Issued by Gibson Lumber Company about a century ago. R10 in Trantow. Prefer trade for NC token(s). Maybe cash. Lamar Bland blandi@elon.edu 919-383-6514

COMPLETE SET OF ORA MILL STORE TOKENS FROM SHELBY, NC. 1¢, 5¢, 10¢, 25¢, 50¢, \$1.00 and \$5.00, all seven for \$50.00 post paid and insured. Don Bailey, PO Box 1272, Etowah, NC 28729. 828-891-3501 ELADON@MORRISBB.NET

TRADE

WILL TRADE NORTH CAROLINA TOKENS FOR PROMISING MAVERICKS PURCHASED IN THE SOUTH. Will also buy mavericks that appear promising. Bob King, 709 Cardinal Dr, Brevard, NC 28712 tokenaddict@citcom.net 828-883-8028

MISCELLEANOUS

YOUR EDITOR NEEDS ARTICLES, CLASSIFIED ADS, LETTERS TO THE EDITOR, OR WHAT HAVE YOU. Give the guy a Christmas present—send 'em in!

CARTS Membership and Dues: Application for membership in CARTS is invited from anyone interested in the exonomia of the two Carolinas. Annual dues are \$10.00 and should be mailed to the treasurer, Bob King. Checks should be made payable to CARTS.

CARTSNEWS: CARTSNEWS, the newsletter of CARTS, is published four times per year in February, May, August, and November.

Advertising: Each member is encouraged to submit one classified ad per issue. These ads are free to members. Free ads should be no more than 50 words in length. No ads will be run continuously; a new ad must be submitted for each issue. The editor reserves the right to edit ads for length and any ad thought not to be in the best interest of the hobby will be rejected.

Paid advertising is also solicited. The rate per issue for paid ads is as follows. One quarter page \$3.00, one half page \$6.00, and full page \$11.00. Any paid advertising, along with payment, should be sent to the editor by the fifteenth of that month before the month of issue. So, for example, advertising copy for the May issue should be received by the editor by April 15. Camera ready copy will be accepted, but the editor will also compose ads from your rough copy if you desire. As with free advertising the editor may reject any ad thought not in the best interest of CARTS or the hobby at large.

CARTS MEETING

- **WHEN:** SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2012
- **TIME:** SET-UP, 8:00-9:00 MEETING, 9:00-12:00
- **WHERE:** HICKORY, NC
- **LOCATION OF MEETING:** FAIRFIELD INN & SUITES, 1950 13TH AVENUE DRIVE SOUTH EAST, HICKORY, NC PHONE:828-431-3000
- **DIRECTIONS:** FROM WEST-TAKE EXIT 125 OFF I-40. FROM EXIT RAMP TURN RIGHT AND QUICKLY GO TO LEFT LANE. TURN LEFT ONTO 13TH AVENUE DRIVE SOUTH EAST. GO TO BOTTOM OF HILL AND LOOK TO THE RIGHT.
FROM EAST-TAKE EXIT 125 OFF I-40. FROM EXIT RAMP TURN LEFT AND GET INTO LEFT LANE. CROSS I-40 AND TAKE FIRST LEFT ONTO 13TH AVENUE DRIVE SOUTH EAST. GO TO BOTTOM OF HILL AND LOOK TO THE RIGHT.

NOTE: FOR COIN COLLECTORS, THIS LOCATION IS BELOW THE LOCATION OF HICKORY METRO CONVENTION CENTER WHERE THE ANNUAL NORTH CAROLINA NUMISMATIC MEETING IS HELD.